United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Great Lakes Region

News Release

NR-16-40 June 30, 2016

Biotechnology Varieties

The use of biotechnology varieties for corn decreased in Michigan in 2016, according the USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Regional Office. Biotechnology varieties accounted for 91 percent of the corn acres planted in Michigan, down from 92 percent last year. Soybean plantings included 95 percent biotechnology varieties, up 1 percent from last year.

Nationally, biotechnology varieties of corn totaled 92 percent of the acres planted, unchanged from 2015. Soybean acreage planted to biotech varieties was also unchanged at 94 percent.

The following table is based on responses from the June Agricultural Survey. Farmers were asked if they planted corn or soybeans that, through biotechnology, are resistant to herbicides, insects, or both. Conventionally bred herbicide resistant varieties are excluded. Insect resistant varieties include only those containing *bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt). The Bt varieties include those that contain more than one gene that can resist different types of insects. Stacked gene varieties include only those containing biotech traits for both herbicide and insect resistance.

Biotechnology varieties: Percent of acres planted

Commodity	Michigan		United States	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
	(Percent)	*(Percent)*	*(Percent)*	*(Percent)*
Corn				
Insect resistant (Bt)	2	3	4	3
Herbicide resistant	16	18	12	13
Stacked gene varieties	74	70	77	76
All biotech varieties	92	91	92	92
Soybeans				
Herbicide resistant	94	95	94	94

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